as

[27th March 1953

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" So far as weavers are concerned, the situation was very bad sometime ago. The situation is somewhat better now and hence the closing of some gruel centres. But from time to time the position will be examined. As regards giving other employment, our whole case and our whole understanding of the position is this, namely, that these weaver families cannot turn over to other employment, and hence their own traditional employment is a good one and will have to be encouraged, and we must find ways and means for such employment to flourish. That is the position."

9-10 a m SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" Sir, the question relates to gruel centres for handloom weavers. Some hon. Members asked whether the Government should not provide them with employment instead of providing gruel centres for them. The Hon. Minister was good enough to say that the gruel centres were meant only for the decrepit, old people and their children. May I know whether in the case of gruel centres for handloom weavers the Government consider that that is the only right way of helping them? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" In the case of weavers, it is restricted by age and condition."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know whether the weavers in the Salem district are also included in this scheme? If so, how many centres are there in the Salem district? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" There are three centres in Salem."

First Aid certificates for motor conductors and drivers.

*212 *Q.*—SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have passed an order that motor conductors and drivers will be removed from Government service if they do not pass the First Aid examination?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, as amended in January 1952, provide that no person shall possess a conductor's certificate or a licence to drive a public service vehicle from 1st July 1953 unless he is in possession of an Adult First Aid Certificate issued by the St. John Ambulance Association (India)."

SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU :—" ప్రశ్న వేస్తున్నానండి. డ్రైవర్లలోను, కండక్టర్లలోను వయసు మీరినవారు చదువులేనివారు ఉన్నారని మంత్రిగారికి తెలుసునా అండి? అలాంటివారు తక్కిన టైములో First Aid ప్యాసు కాగలరా? అందుచేత 1954 జనవరి వరకు టైము extension ఇవ్వగలరా? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" This question was considered and it was thought that the knowledge that conductors and drivers at present possessed was sufficient to enable

27th March 1953]

them to learn first aid. Age is no bar to learning and first aid is an easy thing. Sufficient time has been given till the 1st of July (one and a half years) for them to learn it.''

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—'' May I know if the Government have made arrangements to give training in first aid to these conductors and drivers? To make myself clear, the private employers have not provided any facilities and they do not even relieve them for attending these classes. I would suggest that the Government should start some periodical training courses in district headquarters hospitals and ask the employers, on their own responsibility, to relieve these conductors and drivers to attend these classes in order to enable them to pass these examinations.''

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—'' At the present moment, first aid training is given by the St. John Ambulance Association in various centres. Private medical practitioners in every district, in every centre, are also entitled to lecture and give a certificate. The Civil Surgeons of the district are also entitled to give a certificate. There seems to be no difficulty in the matter. But, if the hon. Member will bring specific instances to our notice, we shall look into the matter.''

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—'' May I know whether the Government are giving any extra allowance to those drivers and conductors who pass the first aid examination and whether the Government have asked the private bus-owners to pay such an extra allowance? If not, will they issue orders to that effect?''

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—'' The Government have considered that the knowledge of first aid is very essential for day to day work of the conductors and drivers and, therefore, no special allowance should be given for this learning.''

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—'' My question has not been answered properly, Sir. I want to know whether the Government will consider the desirability of introducing any legislative measure or framing rules—whatever may be necessary—to treat this period which is required for attending the training course as part of duty without loss of wages.''

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—'' No, Sir. The Government, at the present moment, have not thought of making it part of duty, for these first aid lectures take only half an hour or one hour a day and can be arranged outside the duty hours at any doctor's or any of the St. John Ambulance Association's centres.''

SRI R. VENKATA JAGGA RAO :—'' ఈ G.O. అమలుపెట్టడం యొక్క ఉద్దేశము బస్సు పడిపోయినప్పుడుగాని ప్రమాదం వచ్చినప్పుడుగాని దెబ్బలు తగిలితే కండక్టరు, డ్రైవరు First Aid ఉపయోగించవలెనని ప్రభుత్వం ఉద్దేశించింది అని అనుకుంటాను. ఐతే accident అయినపుడు ఈ కండక్టరు డ్రైవరుకూడా దెబ్బతిని ఉంటారు కదా వారు ఏవిధముగా సహాయం చెయ్యగలరు?''

[27th March 1953

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Of course, if the conductors and the drivers are injured as well as the passengers, then God help the passengers! (Laughter.) But only in cases where they themselves are not injured, we expect them to give first aid. There are first aid boxes carried in every bus and we hope that the conductor or the driver will be free to render first aid."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" The Hon. Minister did not indicate what steps the Government had taken to make provision for these lectures in the rural areas. As a matter of fact, the drivers and conductors are scattered throughout the villages. Therefore, may I know what steps the Government have taken to see that these drivers and conductors are sent to these classes and whether they have got any proposal to make arrangements for this purpose in the rural areas?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Buses now ply from one important town to another important town. The conductors and drivers are, therefore, mostly in towns. The Government are informed that there are enough people to train them. If such information is not correct, then the Government will consider what next can be done. I can only make an appeal to the hon. Members to give this a fair chance. It is a good thing and if it does not succeed, then there is time enough for the Government to think of other measures."

SRI SAKA VENKATA RAO :—" ఈ గవర్నమెంటు ఆర్డరు ట్రాంకారు డ్రైవర్లుకు కండక్టర్లుకు వర్తిస్తుందా అండి?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" At the present moment, it is only for buses. I am not in charge of tram-cars."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" It is a good intention and we must be able to carry it through. So far the intention has been good but it has only given the conductors and the drivers some headache. So, it is very essential that this date of July 1953 should be postponed. Will the Government see that that date is postponed till they make arrangements in the rural areas to enable these conductors and drivers to acquire this qualification? May I also inform the Hon. Minister that there are quite a number of buses which do not come to either the district headquarters or the taluk headquarters and that even if they come, they come only in nights and that these people do not have the time to attend these classes?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, as I said, this is going to come into effect on the 1st of July 1953. We have no information as to the number of drivers who are not going to take the training or the number of drivers whom the managements have refused to permit to undergo the training. When the 1st of July 1953 comes, then it is time for us to consider the question. If there are hard cases, the Government will certainly consider the possibility of giving them

27th March 1953]

more time. We have given a time of one and a half years, but if that is not sufficient, it will be time to reconsider the question on the 1st of July 1953."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I add that this objection to necessary and essential training in a civilized country's transport . . ."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" No objection."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" This objection on the part of the employees is also shared by the managements of this transport business, and all of them combine to avoid this troublesome affair. It is the interests of the travellers that we are trying to protect and we need not be in a hurry to relax the rules so soon. The time given is there up till July 1953. Let the headache continue. If it is not enough, we shall extend the period. But we cannot make any promise now."

DR. T. S. SOUNDARAM RAMACHANDRAN :—" Considering the importance of this qualification for the drivers and the conductors, may I know whether the Government have made it very clear to the employers that just as a driving licence is necessary to employ a driver, a first aid certificate is also necessary in the future to employ drivers? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The trouble that has now been discussed is itself a notice. Future people will have secured the certificate before applying for the post. We are trying only to accommodate those who are already in service."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" The word ' headache ' has been mentioned twice. May I know whether the first aid box contains an antidote for headache also? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" In strict medical parlance, headache is not a disease; it is only a symptom of some other disease."

DR. T. S. SOUNDARAM RAMACHANDRAN :—" Just as the burden is put on the bus drivers and conductors that they should get the First Aid certificate within the prescribed time, may I know whether the Government have put the same burden on the employers also to see that their employees get the certificate within the prescribed time, that is, July 1953? " 9-20 a.m.

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" If the question is asked as to whether facilities are afforded by employers, I should like all employers to give facilities. But the employers by themselves cannot issue the certificate and should not be held responsible for the drivers and conductors getting the necessary certificate."

[27th March 1953

SRI P. B. K. RAJA CHIDAMBARAM:—"May I know whether the Government are satisfied that the number of training centres of the St. John Ambulance Association branches are enough to train all the drivers and conductors in the State?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"The hon. Member is aware that in his own city of Tiruchirappalli there are plenty of opportunities. Similar opportunities are available in most centres and as and when these drivers and conductors come forward for training, they will be trained and issued the certificate."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY:—"Does the Hon. Minister seriously think that the conductors and drivers will be having sufficient patience to go through this course after the day's hard and strenuous work without their being given sufficient time to study the course?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"I would seriously suggest to the hon. Member to visit one such centre and attend a first aid lecture. Then he will see for himself how a number of conductors and drivers are coming forward with pleasure to learn this. I do not think there is any difficulty in this matter."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR:—"ஸார், முதல் சிகிச்சை சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கும்போது அதைத் தாய் மொழியில் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கிறார்களா அல்லது ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொல்லிக் கொடுக்கிறார்களா ? ஆங்கிலத்தில் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்தால் அநேகம் டிரைவர்களும், கண்டக்டர்களும் தங்களுடைய வேலையை இழக்க நேரிடும் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் உணர்கிறார்களா ?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"Yes, Sir. It will be given in their own language or in English whichever they desire."

Questions 214 and 216—

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"Sir, there are two questions about women welfare. They are questions Nos. 214 and 216. As both relate to the same subject, we can take them up together."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have no objection."

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"There is a slight difference between these two. So I would like to answer them separately."

Women Welfare Centres.

*214 *Q.*—SRI S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state the total number of Women Welfare Centres in South Arcot district during 1951-52?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—"Six."